

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 CARACA 10520 111938Z

72

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 L-03 H-03 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 PA-04 USIA-15

PRS-01 SPC-03 DRC-01 /078 W
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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2041

UNCLAS CARACAS 10520

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, VE, CU

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - LAV PLANS REGARDING CUBA SERVICE

REF: 10 FAM 521.B

1. DURING RECENT INFORMAL CONVERSATION, PRESIDENT OF LINEA AEROPOSTAL VENEZOLANA (LAV), GOVERNMENT-OWNED DOMESTIC AIRLINE WITH ROUTES TO TRINIDAD, CURACAO AND ARUBA, STATED THAT HIS AIRLINE IS THINKING ABOUT OCCASIONAL CHARTER FLIGHTS CARACAS-HAVANA IF VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT REESTABLISHES DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH CUBA.

2. AIRLINE PRESIDENT FELT, HOWEVER, THAT THIS WOULD BE ONE-WAY TRAFFIC SINCE HE DOES NOT EXPECT CUBANS TO BE ABLE TO COME TO VENEZUELA ON VACATION. HE EXPRESSED FEAR THAT GOVERNMENT MIGHT ORDER HIS AIRLINE TO COMMENCE SCHEDULED SERVICE, WHICH WOULD BE EVEN LESS PROFITABLE, BUT FELT THAT IF ANY AIRLINE MUST OFFER THIS SERVICE, IT SHOULD BE HIS AS GOVERNMENT-OWNED CARRIER.

3. LAV HAS MADE SEVERAL SPECIAL FLIGHTS TO CUBA IN RECENT MONTHS, AS HAS VIASA, MOSTLY FOR PURPOSE OF TRANSPORTING GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND REFUGEES FROM VENEZUELAN EMBASSY IN SANTIAGO, CHILE.

MCCLINTOCK

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Message Attributes

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